

House Republican Press Release

August 2, 2004
Press Office: 860-240-8700

Preserve the White Barn Theatre, Letter of Support



Norwalk Conservation Commission
Mr. Matthew A. Caputo, Chairman
Norwalk City Hall
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06856-5125

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing to strongly support the request for open space funds towards the purchase of the White Barn Theatre property. Financial support from the City of Norwalk's Open Space Fund is critical to the success of the dedicated citizens that have been fighting to protect this valuable natural habitat for all to enjoy. You must see to it that Norwalk's character and quality of life is preserved not just for today's occupants but also for the future generations to come. For once lost, this valuable resource can never be regained.

Our state is small and dense. It is in constant danger of encroaching over development. Norwalk is one of the few truly beautiful vital large cities remaining in our state. The pressure to build must be balanced and the process should be thoughtful and deliberate using the long-term vision for the city Norwalk as your guide. The need for housing and development can proceed without threatening to reduce precious open space and historic landmarks that have made Norwalk and Connecticut an attractive home and destination for so many.

One has only to look at surrounding communities to see the positive economic affects of preserving and retaining historical landmarks and neighborhoods. Over a period of many years in public service, my experience has shown that the public is extremely supportive of financial decisions by their local decision makers to purchase open space and significant town landmarks as resources. They understand that it is in the long-term best interest of the towns to do so. Again, it cannot be stressed enough that once lost precious resources can rarely be regained.

The British burned much of Norwalk's most valuable historical landmarks many years ago. Please do not permit this outstanding opportunity to retain an important Norwalk asset slip through your hands today. It is in all our best interests as residents, businesses and community leaders to protect the best of the city.

Thank you for your time and efforts in making a very real and positive difference for the City of Norwalk.

Sincerely,

Toni Boucher
State Representative
143rd District

TB:mlb

Cc: Mayor Alex Knopp

Norwalk Land Trust